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PATENT

NOV 07 2006

Application # 10/780,037

Attorney Docket # 1057-002

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully thanked for:

1. the consideration provided to this application;
2. determining each of claims 11-14, 16, 19, 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, and 49 allowable;
3. indicating that each of claims 20 and 42 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph;
4. indicating that each of claims 15, 17, 21, 22, 39, 41, and 43-47 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and
5. discussing the remaining claims with the undersigned on 7 November 2006.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Each of claims 1-10, 23-33, 36, 41, 47, and 48 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Each of claims 11, 17, 20, 22, and 42 has been amended for at least one reason unrelated to patentability, including at least one of: to explicitly present one or more elements implicit in the claim as originally written when viewed in light of the specification, thereby not narrowing the scope of the claim; to detect infringement more easily; to enlarge the scope of infringement; to cover different kinds of infringement (direct, indirect, contributory, induced, and/or importation, etc.); to expedite the issuance of a claim of particular current licensing interest; to target the claim to a party currently interested in licensing certain embodiments; to enlarge the royalty base of the claim; to cover a particular product or person in the marketplace; and/or to target the claim to a particular industry.

Claims 11-17 and 19-22, 33-35, 37-40, 42-46, and 48-49 are now pending in this application. Each of claims 11, 20, 37, and 42 are in independent form.

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The Indefiniteness Rejections

Each of claims 15, 17, 20-22, 39, and 41-47 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding these rejections, as discussed on 7 November 2006:

- claim 15 is definite, considering, for example, the language of claim 11 ("a substantially planar wooden lid adapted to be attached to said first wooden portion");
- claims 17, 20, 22, and 42 are definite, particularly given the present amendments to explicitly present one or more elements implicit as originally written when viewed in light of the specification, thereby rendering moot the objections and rejections to each of claims 17, 20-22, and 42-46; and
- claims 41 and 47 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

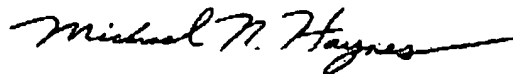
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application as amended is in clear condition for allowance. Reconsideration, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-2504. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 434-972-9988 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 07 November 2006

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